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Washington Whispers.

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From U.S. intelligence sources comes word of a series of attempted coups against Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi—each of them foiled when Qadhafi penetrated the plot. If the Libyan chief is overthrown, these officials predict, it will be through a coup from within the Army.

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The major reason administration officials were unhappy over public discussion of Libyan hit squads sent to assassinate top U.S. officials: A personality profile of Libya's Qadhafi—put together by intelligence sources—describes him as a “messianic paranoid who will never back down in a public confrontation.”

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White House outrage at Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights, taken from Syria, was exceeded by another and unannounced concern: Intelligence reports that Prime Minister Begin might exploit world preoccupation with the Polish crisis by invading southern Lebanon.